

# ST. HELENS MIST

FOUNDED 1881

Issued Every Friday By  
THE MIST PUBLISHING COMPANY  
M. E. Miller, Editor

Entered as second class matter, January 19th, 1912  
at the Post Office at Saint Helens, Oregon, under the  
Act of March 3rd, 1879

SUBSCRIPTION RATES  
One Year ..... \$1.50  
Six Months ..... .75  
Advertising rates made known on application  
Legal notices 25 cents per line.

THE COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

## MAKE UNFORTUNATES TO SMILE.

That there are quite a number of families in St. Helens and vicinity who are unfortunate and needy, and are deserving of assistance at the present time, has been discovered since the organization of the Muts Society in this city. Cases of actual want have been found where least expected. Cases where women and children were really suffering from the lack of food, clothing and fuel. Already several of these cases have been relieved and the work has only begun. The investigations already made by this society have also unearthed some cases where good women and helpless children are suffering mainly because the husband and father is too worthless and shiftless to earn a dollar for his family, or if he has earned a dollar it goes some other way than in furnishing the necessary provisions for his family. These cases will always be found in every community of any considerable size and were to be expected, but the worthy cases of unfortunates are more numerous than was anticipated.

The relief work of this organization in St. Helens is assuming larger proportions than was ever expected. In some instances sickness has been the cause of the unfortunate circumstance in which people find themselves. In other cases lack of employment furnishes the real cause. In several cases general cussedness and shiftlessness on the part of the husband and father, furnishes a reason for the condition of the family. However, in each case the wants of the family are investigated and proper relief made. The work so far has been very highly appreciated and the work of relieving the unfortunates has been very gratifying to the Muts.

There are a number of cases where the man of the house is temporarily out of employment, and a little assistance to his family would no doubt be appreciated by the family, and yet the man may say that he is not an object of charity, and is capable of taking care of his family. But the spirit in which the relief is offered by the Muts of St. Helens should not be taken by any one as offensive for it is not intended to be such, and if any man feels that his children should have a happy Christmas this year, and he is not in a position to give it to them he should not take offense if his neighbors and friends, who are not so unfortunate as he, offer to assist in making his own family to enjoy life. It is purely a work of charity and a desire to help an unfortunate brother that the Muts are doing. If any person knows where charity can be bestowed on the worthy unfortunates let them notify the secretary of the Muts at the Mist office and relief will be prompt.

The motto of the Muts is set forth in the membership card which is as follows. M (make) U (unfortunates) T (to) S (smile.)

## AMEND THE GAME LAWS.

There is room for much improvement in the Game Laws of Oregon by the coming Legislature. Thousands of dollars are collected and expended by the State Game and Fish Commission for the protection of game and the propagation of game fish as well as for salaries of wardens and deputy wardens, clerks and others. Perhaps one person out of every thousand in Oregon receives the benefits of the game laws while the balance have nothing to say or do with them, except to help pay the bills. True, much of the fund is received from the licenses of those directly interested and the fines collected for violations of the law, but therein lies one of the greatest defects in the law. The County Clerks issue the licenses, except for commercial fishing, the fees going entirely to the game fund. In case of a fine for a game violation the fines go to the game fund and the game wardens. The County gets nothing from any source and stands no possible chance to get anything under any circumstances.

On the other hand if there is an acquittal in a game case the county pays the bill. A man charged with a game violation may call his witnesses from a distance, may demand a jury, all of which necessarily takes fees. Suppose, for instance, he should be convicted in the Justice Court after having caused an expense of \$50 and should take an appeal to the Circuit Court. Here he would again be tried with

more costs than before and should he here be acquitted, the county will have the satisfaction of paying the costs amounting to probably \$100. But suppose he should be convicted and fined \$100, then the fine goes to the State game fund and the county receives no share of the fine. So the county stands in the position of having everything to lose and nothing to gain whichever way it goes.

This condition is not fair to the taxpayers of the various counties. If the county is required to take the chance of paying the bills it should also have the chance of receiving at least a portion of the funds derived from and licenses and fines. A certain portion of every license should be retained by the county. At least 50 per cent of every fine should be retained by the county. In this way it would be possible for the county to break even, although there are far more acquittals of game violation than convictions. The fact that the State receives all the funds is also an explanation for the fact as stated that there are more acquittals than convictions for game violations.

In addition to that reason there is also the very general reason that most of the people of the counties outside of Multnomah, hold the idea that the game laws are enforced for almost the exclusive benefit of the sportsmen of Portland and a prejudice exists in the minds of the settlers outside of Portland against the laws for that reason. And it may be said in passing that there is something to that contention, too; while the ostensible object of the game laws is for the protection of the game of the state, it must be admitted that the city sports receive most of the benefits of the protection law.

Truly there is ample room for improvement in the game laws so that the counties will stand a chance to break even on the expense and also for such amendments as will give the settler in the mountains or forests just as much protection as do the city sports receive.

The Legislature should give this matter serious consideration.

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## REASONS FOR UNDEVELOPMENT.

According to the reports of the assessors of Oregon, there are more logged off and timber lands in Columbia County than in any other Oregon county. A very large percentage of the logged off lands in this county are lying idle, and with the stumps just as left after the logging operations ceased. No effort has been made to get settlers on these lands nor to increase the wealth and population of the county, and whenever a small effort is made along these lines there are things which seem to thwart it. The lands of Columbia County are very productive and there are many thousand acres lying idle that would make comfortable homes for industrious farmers and orchardists. The reason for so little development along this line is not hard to figure out. In the first place the logged off land is held at a price that is too high to offer inducement to intending settlers. Secondly it has been unfortunate that at least some of the tracts of logged off lands have fallen into the hands of speculators, and purchasers of such lands have been stung so hard that they have given us an advertisement that is not productive of inducing others to come here. A third reason is high taxes and another reason is the lack of good roads.

Taking all these reasons together it is not hard to figure out why Columbia is the least developed of any county in Oregon. A united effort on the part of all parties interested would very materially remedy the obstacles to proper development.

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## AN ILLUSTRATION.

Farmer Brown owns a dairy farm on Sauvie's Island adjoining the farm of Farmer Anderson. Both these farmers are in the dairy business and also own a considerable number of cows and other stock. Farmer Anderson owns about 20 acres more land than does Farmer Brown also 20 more head of stock. Their farm improvements are of nearly the same value. Farmer Brown's property is all in Columbia County while Farmer Anderson's property is all in Multnomah County. Last year Farmer Brown paid taxes into Columbia County on his farm and stock amounting to \$231.39. Last year Farmer Anderson paid taxes into Multnomah County on his farm and stock amounting to \$83.00. The county line is all that separates the two farms and yet Farmer Brown, of Columbia County is required to pay nearly four times more taxes than is Farmer Anderson, of Multnomah County. This is an actual illustration and the figures will furnish much food for thought by the taxpayers of Columbia County. If you are a taxpayer in Columbia County attend the Budget Meeting at the Court House, in St. Helens, on Tuesday, December 29th, 1914, and there find out, if you can, why Farmer Brown is required to pay four times the amount of taxes that Farmer Anderson does.

## ADVERTISED LETTERS.

Letters unclaimed at the St. Helens, Oregon postoffice for the week ending December 12th, 1914.  
Mr. Bill Cole.  
Miss Joiner.  
P. Peterson.  
Mr. P. Peterson.  
Mr. Fred Senn.  
Mr. J. Stark.  
Letters unclaimed by December 26, 1914, will be sent to the dead-letter office. IVA E. DODD, P. M.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

We have taken over the A. P. Larson dairy and farm, and have taken charge of same. We take this method of thanking our patrons for their favors and continuance of their orders, and hope to be able to please in every respect. We also want the favors of new customers, and will aim to give the very best milk and cream that can be had, in the most sanitary way. We will make our prices reasonable as can be had. Prompt delivery and satisfaction guaranteed in every respect. Phone us your orders at all times. Phone No. 107-6.

## LONE FIR DAIRY

Cade Bros., Proprietors

## WANTED

BIDS TO FURNISH  
CARLOAD OF

## CEDAR POSTS

Same to be from large timber and eight feet long by thirty inches in circumference, and f. o. b. car. Give figures on live (also dead) timber and one car, with option of two. Prefer dealing direct with timber owner. Address bids to W. W. Graham, 600 Holly Street, Portland, Oregon.

## LUNCH

AT

## MASON'S

RUTHERFORD  
BUILDING.

CHOICE

Confectionery and Cigars

## HOLIDAY STOCK

JUST RECEIVED.

LARGE ASSORTMENT OF  
BOX GOODS.

## DURING THE AGES

Good Jewelry has been  
conceded to be a most  
appropriate

## XMAS GIFT

Good Jewelry is my Line

Come in and make your selections while the selecting is good.

EXPERT WATCH REPAIRING.

VON A. GRAY

Jeweler. ST. HELENS

# Books! Books! Books!

## DEMING'S DRUG STORE

Rexall and Nyal Goods

# Christmas Bargains

We are certainly giving bargains in Christmas goods. We endeavor to give bargains in everything we have to sell, especially in

## OUR 15 CENT HOSE.

We guarantee every pair.  
Try a pair.

## Hand-Made Cream Chocolates

Best on the market, 30 cents a pound.

## CHRISTMAS CANDY

15 cents a pound. Special prices to schools and churches.

A real live Santa Claus will visit Noah's Ark Wednesday, December 23, at 2 p. m.

COUNTRY TRADE SOLICITED.

We have demonstrated that we are the Leading Toy Shop of the city.

## NOAH'S ARK

ST. HELENS 5 AND 10 CENT STORE.



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Inexpensive and appropriate gifts for everyone.

FULL LINE OF  
General Electric Guaranteed Toasters, Chafing Dishes, Irons, Radiators, Etc.

Toasters \$3.75

Irons \$3.50 and \$3.75

Life guarantee with every Iron.

Toy Motors for the boys at \$1.45 and Pocket Flash Lights \$1.15 up.

For the home what nicer than a modern two or three light electric shower. Installed in place \$4.40 and \$6.25.

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Handy to Large Stores, Theaters and Banks  
Comfortable and Convenient.

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Of High Class, with Moderate Prices,  
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Room Rates: With bath \$1.50 up. With bath privilege \$1.00 up.

C. H. SHAFER, Manager.